

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR IMMIGRANT VISA APPLICANTS

Recent changes to United States immigration law now requires immigrant visa applicants to obtain certain vaccinations (listed below) **prior to the issuance of an immigrant visa**. Panel physicians, who conduct medical examinations of immigrant visa applicants are now required to verify that immigrant visa applicants have met the new vaccination requirement, or that it is medically inappropriate for the visa applicant to receive one or more of the listed vaccinations:

VACCINE	AGE GROUP
• Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids, pertussis (DTP/DtaP/DT):	2 months - 6 years
• Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids, pertussis (Td/Tdap):	Td from 7 years on; Tdap 10 – 64 years old
• Polio:	2 months - 17 years
• Mumps, Measles, Rubella (MMR):	1 year - 64 years, if born in 1957 or later
• Rotavirus:	2 – 6 months old
• Influenzae type b (Hib):	2 – 59 months old
• Hepatitis A:	12 – 23 months old
• Hepatitis B:	birth – 18 years old
• Meningococcal (MCV/MPSV):	11 – 18 years old
• Human papillomavirus:	for females 11 - 26 years old
• Varicella:	from 1 year on
• Zoster:	60 years or older
• Pneumococcal:	2 - 59 months; 65 years or older
• Influenza:	6 – 59 months old; 50 years or older (annually in flu season)

In order to assist the panel physician, and to avoid delays in the processing of an immigrant visa, all immigrant visa applicants should have their vaccination records available for the panel physician's review at the time of the immigrant medical examination. Visa applicants should consult with their regular health care provider to obtain a copy of their immunization record, if one is available. If you do not have a vaccination record, the panel physician will work with you to determine which vaccinations you may need to meet the requirement. Certain waivers of the vaccination requirement are available upon the recommendation of the panel physician. Only a physician can determine which of the listed vaccinations are medically appropriate for you, given your age, medical history and current medical condition.

